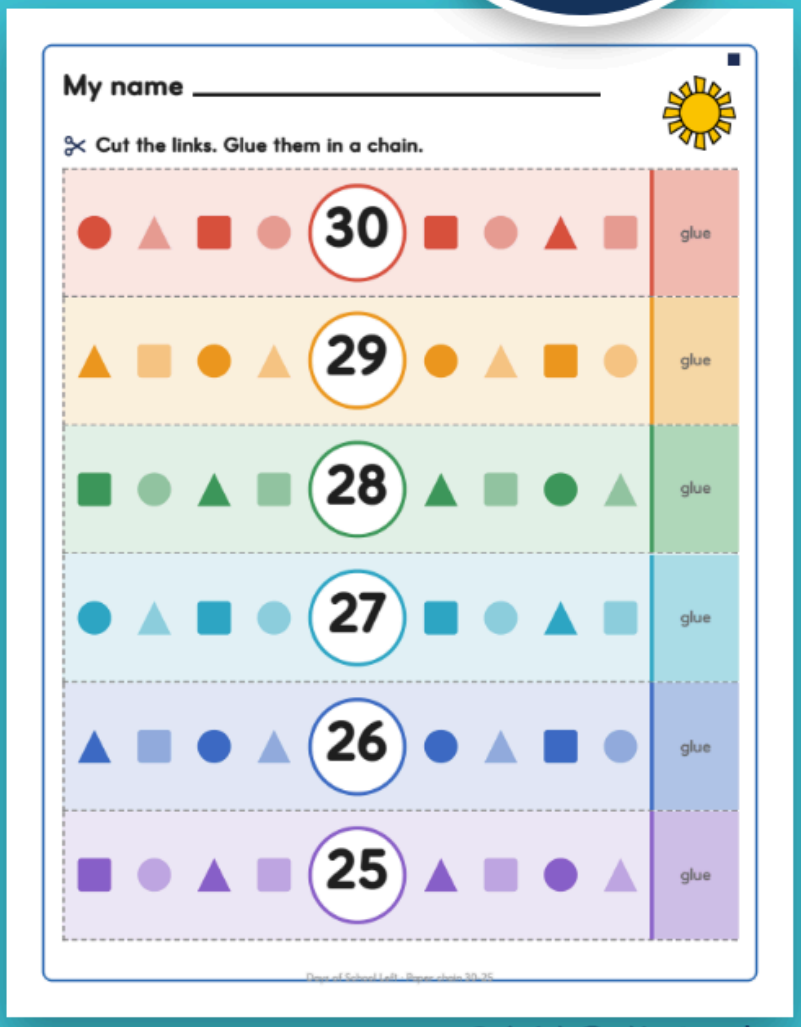
COUNTDOWN OF DAYS OF SCHOOL LEFT

GRADES K-3

40 PAGES

Paper Chain
Tally
Number Strips





Bright Path Sped

Terms of Use

Please read before you print your first page.

One classroom license

- This file is for one classroom: one teacher, one group of students.
- Please do not share it, post it online, or sell it.
- Extra licenses for a team or a school are available on the product page.

This is a print PDF

- Print the pages you need. Nothing is typed into this file.
- It works offline. No account, no subscription, no internet connection needed after you download it.

Print at 100 percent

Turn off fit to page and shrink to fit so the numbers stay big and every link and strip prints at its full size. Every student page comes twice: in color (pages 5-20) and as an ink-saver copy in black and white (pages 21-36). Colored paper makes a bright paper chain from either copy.

Student work

Pages with a child's name on them stay with the child. Use a first name only on any page that leaves your hands.

Need help?

If a page will not print the way you expect, use Ask a Question on the product page before leaving a review. Every question is read, and a fix to the file ships as a free update: re-download it any time from My Purchases.

© Bright Path Sped. For single-classroom use by the original purchaser.

PREVIEW

How to Run the Countdown

Choose the ways that fit your room. None of them needs more than a page and a pair of scissors.

Setting up (a few minutes)

- **Find your number.** Count the school days left on your own calendar. Count only the days children are in school: skip weekends and days off. Your calendar decides the number, not this file.
- **Show it.** Write the number on the wall sign (page 20) and change it each morning.

Five ways to count down

Way to count	How to run it
Paper chain	Print the chain pages (pages 5-9). Children cut the links, make each into a loop and glue the tab. Join the links in order into one long chain and hang it. Take one link off each school day. The chain holds 30 links, so with more than 30 days left, start it when 30 are left.
Tally chart	Page 15. One tally mark each day; the fifth mark goes across the four. At the end of the week write how many days have passed. Write the days to go at the start, and the days left now.
Color-down grid	Page 16. The boxes count down from 30 to 1. Color the box for today, or the box for the number of days left.
Number strips	Pages 12 and 13. Cut the strips and tape them end to end into one long number line (30 to 1, then 60 to 31 if you want more). Point to today's number each morning and count down together.
Daily pages	Pages 17-19. A quick morning page: write the days left, take one away, and write or draw about it. Use the page whose shape fits the child.

A morning in about five minutes

- Say how many days are left, and have the class say it with you.
- Take one link off the chain, or color one box on the grid, and make one tally mark.
- Hand out the daily page, or point to today's number on the strips and count down together.

The corner shapes

- **Circle:** starting. Numbers are printed or traced; the task is to look and circle or trace.
- **Square:** building. Copy a number, write a missing number, or make a mark.
- **Triangle:** ready for more. Write the numbers and sentences on your own.
- The shapes are small and the same on every page, so nobody's paper looks easier or harder.

Small tips

- Print the chain pages on colored paper, or let children color the links before they cut.
- Missing numbers (page 14) is good practice when counting down needs a boost.
- Keep a finished page for children to take home on the last day.

PREVIEW

My name _____



Cut the links. Glue them in a chain.

24 glue

23 glue

22 glue

21 glue

20 glue

19 glue

PREVIEW

My name _____



Cut the links. Glue them in a chain.

12 glue

11 glue

10 glue

9 glue

8 glue

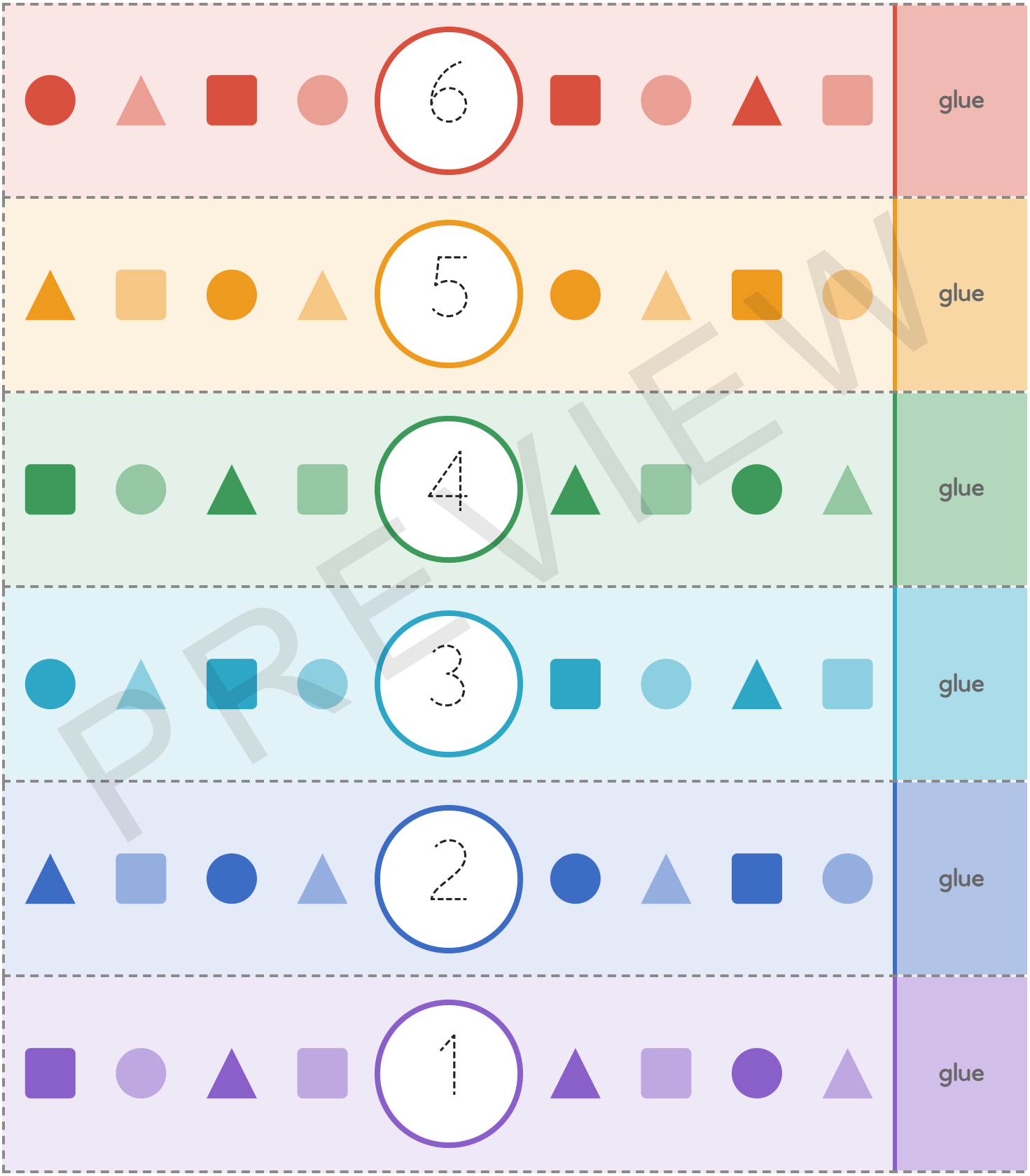
7 glue

PREVIEW

My name _____



Trace the numbers. Cut the links.



PREVIEW

My name _____



Cut the strips. Tape them end to end.

30	29	28	27	26
25	24	23	22	21
20	19	18	17	16
15	14	13	12	11
10	9	8	7	6
5	4	3	2	1

PREVIEW

My name _____



Write the missing numbers.

56	55		53	52		50	
48		46	45		43		41
40	39	38		36		34	33
32	31		29	28	27		
24		22		20		18	17
16	15	14	13		11	10	
8	7		5	4		2	1

PREVIEW

My name _____



Color a box for each day.

30	29	28	27	26
25	24	23	22	21
20	19	18	17	16
15	14	13	12	11
10	9	8	7	6
5	4	3	2	1

PREVIEW

My name _____



Count down. Write the numbers.

Days left today: ☐

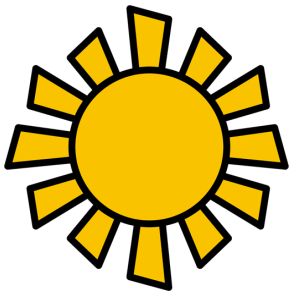
☐ − 1 = ☐ Tomorrow

Count down from today.

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

One thing I did today:

PREVIEW



ONLY



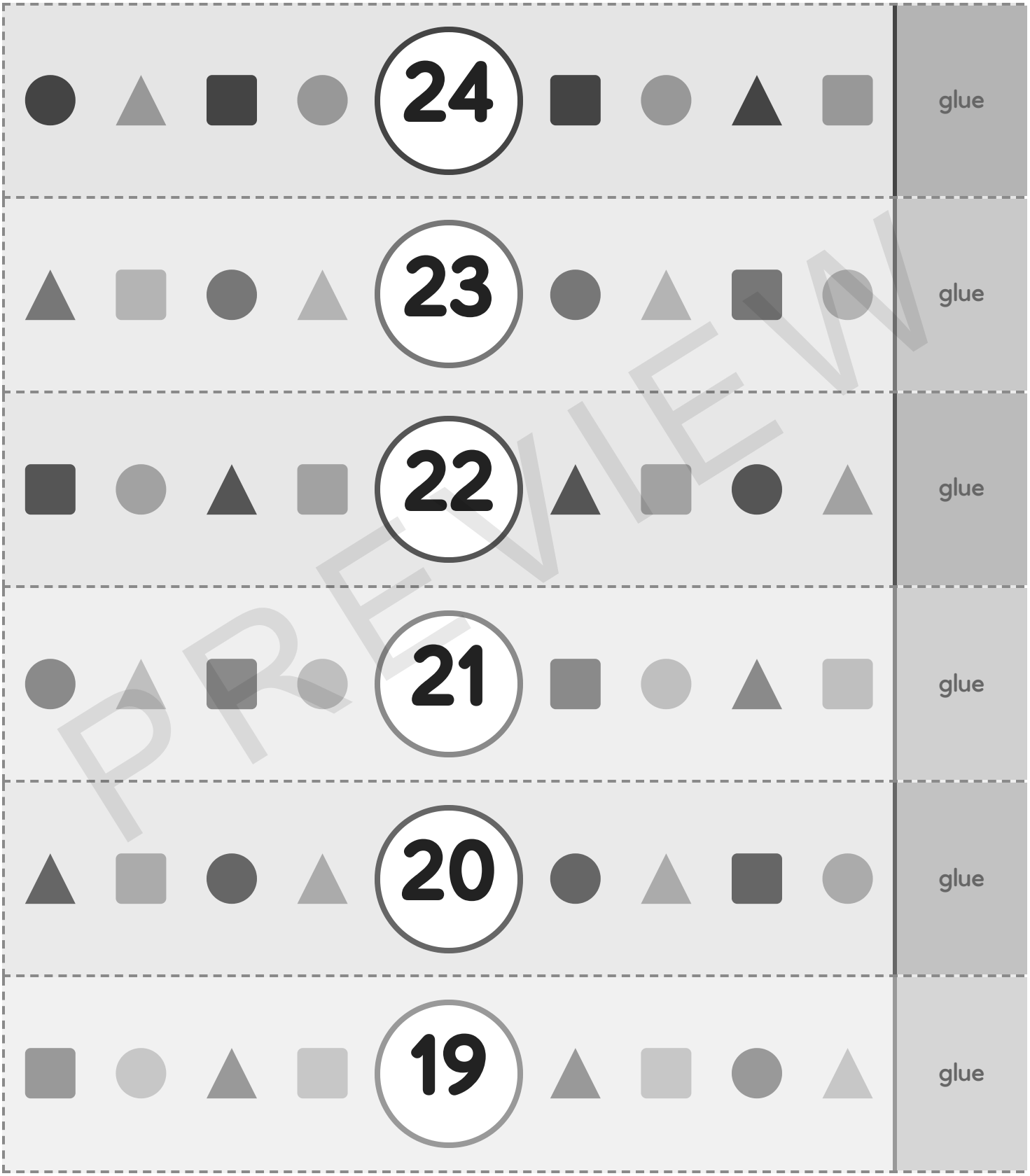
PREVIEW

DAYS OF SCHOOL LEFT!

My name _____



Cut the links. Glue them in a chain.

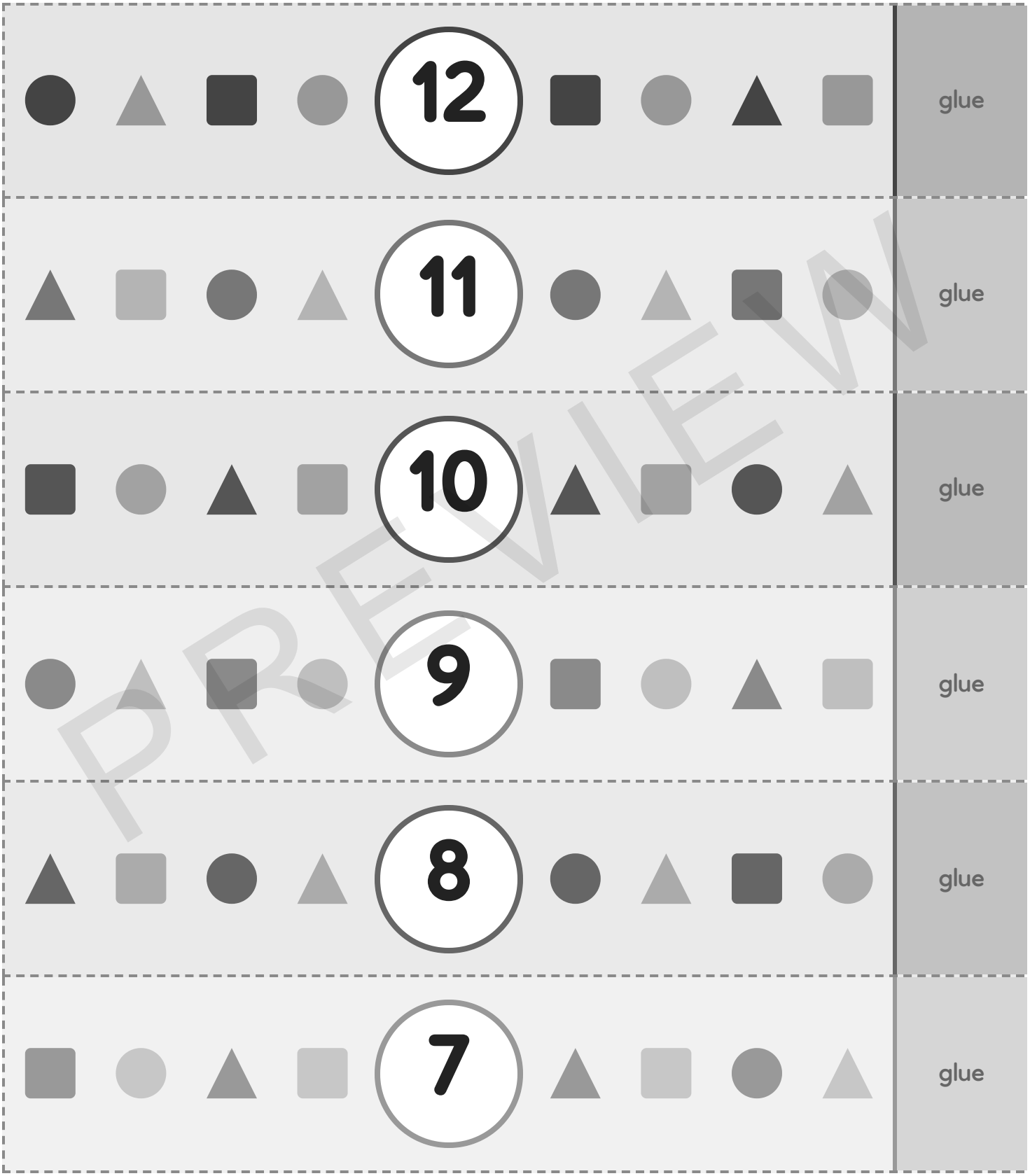


PREVIEW

My name _____



Cut the links. Glue them in a chain.

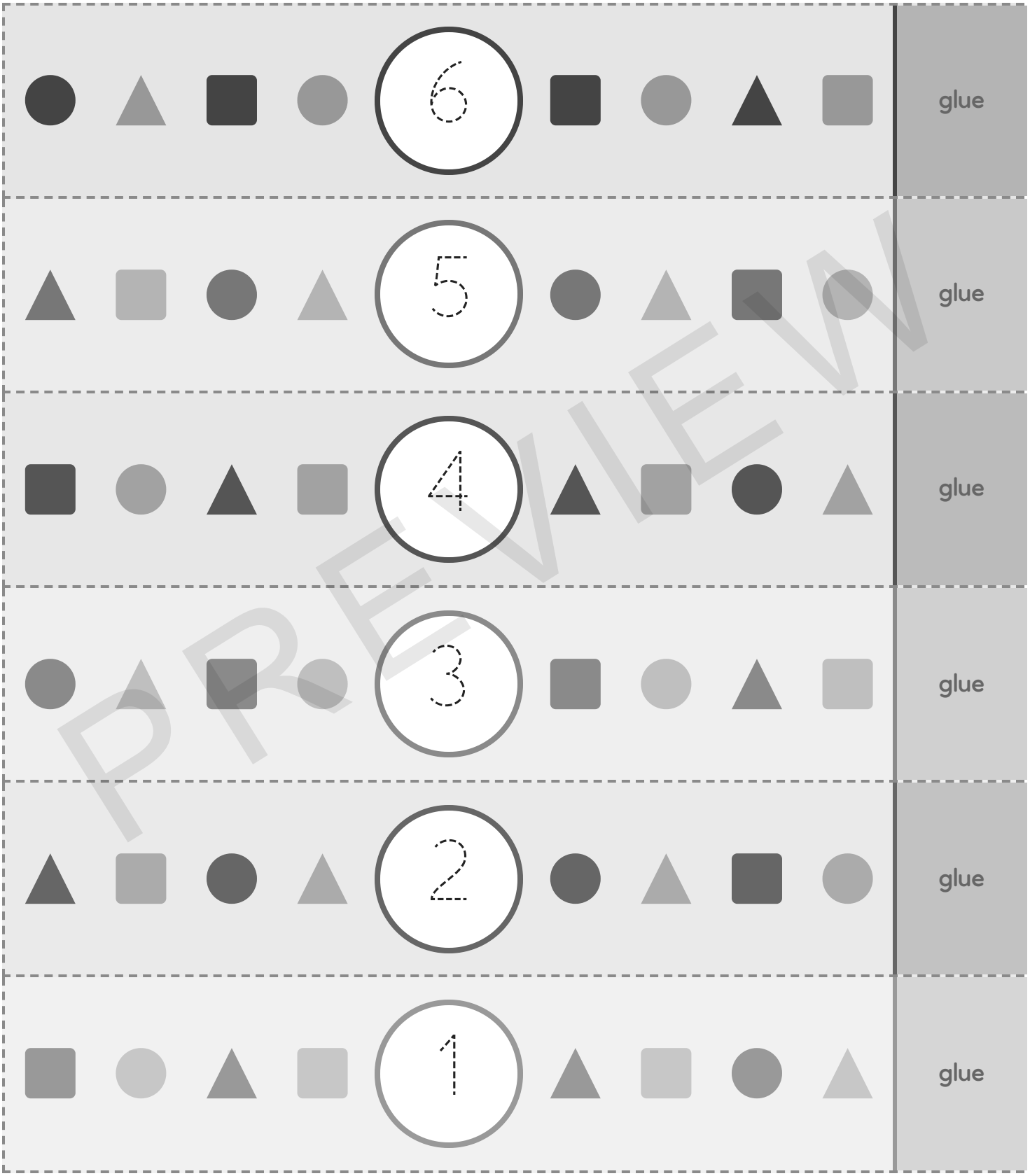


PREVIEW

My name _____

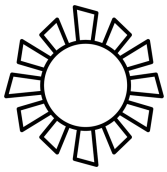


Trace the numbers. Cut the links.



PREVIEW

My name _____

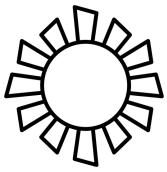


✂ **Cut the strips. Tape them end to end.**

60	59	58	57	56
55	54	53	52	51
50	49	48	47	46
45	44	43	42	41
40	39	38	37	36
35	34	33	32	31

PREVIEW

My name _____



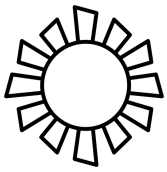
Make a tally mark for each day.

Days to go at the start	Days left now

Week 1		days so far
Week 2		days so far
Week 3		days so far
Week 4		days so far
Week 5		days so far
Week 6		days so far
Week 7		days so far
Week 8		days so far

PREVIEW

My name _____



Write the days left. Circle it.

Days left:

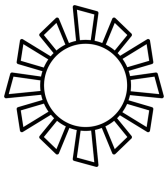
Date _____

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Draw one thing you want to do when school ends.

PREVIEW

My name _____



Write about the days left.

There are _____ days left.

After today there will be _____ days left.

I will miss _____.

I am excited to _____.

My countdown plan for the last days:

PREVIEW

Answer Key

Every number below is printed or written in the order the page shows it, top to bottom.

Answers, by page (the black-and-white copy has the same answers)

Pages 5 and 21 (paper chain) links, top to bottom: 30, 29, 28, 27, 26, 25

Pages 6 and 22 (paper chain) links, top to bottom: 24, 23, 22, 21, 20, 19

Pages 7 and 23 (paper chain) links, top to bottom: 18, 17, 16, 15, 14, 13

Pages 8 and 24 (paper chain) links, top to bottom: 12, 11, 10, 9, 8, 7

Pages 9 and 25 (paper chain) links, top to bottom: 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1

Pages 10 and 26 (trace) links, top to bottom: 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1

Pages 11 and 27 (write the numbers) any six numbers counting down; the child writes them.

Pages 12 and 28 (number strips) top to bottom: 30-26 | 25-21 | 20-16 | 15-11 | 10-6 | 5-1

Pages 13 and 29 (number strips) top to bottom: 60-56 | 55-51 | 50-46 | 45-41 | 40-36 | 35-31

Pages 14 and 30 (missing numbers) the empty boxes, left to right: row 1: 54, 51, 49; row 2: 47, 44, 42; row 3: 37, 35; row 4: 30, 26, 25; row 5: 23, 21, 19; row 6: 12, 9; row 7: 6, 3

Pages 16 and 32 (color-down grid) reading left to right, top to bottom: 30 down to 1, five boxes in a row, six rows.

Pages 15 and 31, 17 and 33, 18 and 34, 19 and 35 have no single right answer: the numbers are your class's own. A finished example is on page 38.

Checking quickly

- On the chain and strip pages the numbers are already printed or traced; check that the links and strips go together in order.
- On missing numbers, read each row aloud, counting down, to hear whether the number fits.
- On the tally chart, count the marks in a row and compare with the days so far.

What is on the pages

- Paper chain: 30 links numbered 30 to 1, plus 6 links to trace and 6 to write on.
- Number strips: 12 strips of 5 numbers, 60 numbers in all (30 to 1 and 60 to 31).
- Missing numbers: 7 rows of 8 boxes, 18 of them empty.
- Color-down grid: 30 boxes. Tally chart: 8 weeks.

PREVIEW

A Finished Example (Invented Student)

Mia T. and her class are invented; nothing on this page describes a real child. The blank tally chart is on page 15.

Week	Tally marks	Marks	Days so far	Days left
Week 1		5	5	30 − 5 = **25**
Week 2		5	10	30 − 10 = **20**
Week 3		4	14	30 − 14 = **16**
Week 4		5	19	30 − 19 = **11**
Week 5	–	–	–	–
Week 6	–	–	–	–

How to read it

The class started with **30** days to go. Week 3 was a four-day week, so it has 4 marks. After 4 weeks, **19** days are done and **11** are left: 19 + 11 = 30. Each "days so far" number is the one before it plus that week's marks.

Mia T.'s daily page (invented student)

Days left today: **11**. Take one away: 11 − 1 = **10**, so tomorrow there are **10** days left. Counting down from today: **11**, **10**, **9**, **8**, **7**, **6**.

A note for the family this would produce

"Our class has 11 school days left. At home, count down from 11 with your child: 11, 10, 9, 8, 7, 6."

Try it with your class

- Write your own starting number at the top of the tally chart, then a mark each day.
- At the end of each week, add that week's marks to the days so far and subtract from the start to find the days left.
- Every day off or short week changes the marks, not the method.

PREVIEW